

313. The pharmaceutical composition of one of claims 298 to 312, which is suitable for topical administration.

314. The pharmaceutical composition of one of claims 298 to 312, which is suitable for systemic administration.

315. The pharmaceutical composition of one of claims 109, 126, 146, 163, 180, 197, 214, 231, 247, 264, 281, or 298 wherein said polypeptide has a single conservative amino acid substitution and wherein the polypeptide has mitogenic activity on BALB/MK keratinocyte cells.

REMARKS

Claims 92 to 108 were previously pending in this application. Applicants herewith cancel all previous claims, without prejudice or disclaimer, and add new claims 109 to 315. Thus, with entry of this amendment, claims 109 to 315 will be pending in this case.

I. Election of Species

The Examiner has stated that claims 107 to 108 are directed to a non-elected invention. In response, Applicants assert that this objection is rendered moot with the cancellation of such claims.

II. Double Patenting

Applicants thank Examiner Saoud for the interview on June 8, 2001 and her suggestions for placing this case and co-pending application 08/455,620 into condition for allowance. Applicants are prepared to file a terminal disclaimer to overcome any remaining obviousness type double patenting issues, upon indication of allowable subject matter.

III. Rejections under § 112

The Examiner rejected claim 92 to 93 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph. Applicants urge that his rejection is rendered moot with the cancellation of these claims. The Examiner also rejected claims 94-95 for lack of enablement. Applicants also have cancelled these claims and

the new claims do not recite a molecular weight range. The Examiner also rejected claims 97 to 102. Applicants assert that new claim 315 is in accord with the Examiner's suggestion with the recitation of a conserved activity. In view of the new claims and above explanations, applicants respectfully request Examiner Saoud to withdraw all rejections for lack of written description, lack of enablement and indefiniteness under Section 112.

CONCLUSION

Applicants again thank Examiner Saoud for the interview June 8, 2001 and her suggestions in connection with furthering the allowance of this case. In view of this amendment, applicants urge that all outstanding rejections have been rendered moot or over come and an indication of allowability of the claims is respectfully requested. Examiner Saoud is invited to contact the undersigned attorney for applicants for any reason in furtherance of the allowance of the above claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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